REMARKS

Claim 1 is now the only claim pending in the application.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Group I (claim 1).

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7500 ECEIVED

APR 2 1 2003

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Dated: 4-16-03

Michael J. Thomas Reg. No. 39,857

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C. 7700 Bonhomme Avenue, Suite 400 St. Louis, Missouri 63105 (314) 726-7500